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COMMUNITY APPEARANCE

SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

SALISBURY NORTH CAROLINA ROWAN COUNTY, N. C.

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Community Appearance Committee

City of Salisbury Planning Board

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Mr. Henry Bernhardt*

Mrs. Steve Fuller**

Mrs. Fred Ponder**

Mr. Dick Lowish**

Mr. Charles Goldman**

Mrs. Tommy Gamewell**

Mrs. Warren Beaumont**

COMMUNITY

SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE

SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA

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INTRODUCTION

The appearance of the Salisbury community has always been a matter of deep concern. Merchants, industrialists, property owners, visitors and residents alike share this concern. Specific features of the community which contribute to an attractive appearance are quite readily pointed out. These features of attractiveness contribute to the identity of Salisbury in such a way as to show warmth, friendliness, and a respect for individual identity. There is also an air of nostalgia for a way of life which is good.

Those community appearance features of the Salisbury community which detract from this good way of life are as easily identified and as openly recognized. Throughout the history of Salisbury there has been a concerted effort to maintain and reinforce the good features while overcoming the detrimental effect of the detracting features.

Concern for community appearance is not new to the Salisbury community.

This documentation is an effort to present in codified form some of the interests and activities concerning community appearance relative to the Salisbury area.

The Salisbury community is composed of the City of Salisbury and the Salisbury (two mile) extraterritorial jurisdictional area. The Salisbury community is actually only a portion of a larger area. The influence of Spencer and East Spencer, adjacent municipalities, and Granite Quarry, located within a mile of Salisbury, actually compose a major area of population concentration in Rowan County. While there is a collective identity to this total area, there are also distinct subareas related to these various municipalities. Within the area identified here as the Salisbury community there are also clearly identified smaller areas. This documentation

will deal with the total Salisbury community area, highlighting at times certain of these smaller areas.

The Salisbury Community Appearance section of this report has two major sections. One section presents a synthesis of a community appearance survey made by the Community Appearance Committee of the Salisbury Planning Board. In the second major section community appearance projects, programs, and those who have a major interest or concern therein are presented. While interests and efforts concerning community appearance have been a part of the comprehensive planning program, this approach by the Salisbury Planning Board is a new and concerted effort. Therefore, the results of the effort itself is probably more significant than the content of this documentation.

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE SURVEY

The existing conditions relative to community appearance for the Salisbury planning area were reviewed and inventoried by a field survey process. The field survey was made by a community appearance committee of the Salisbury Planning Board. The Salisbury Planning Board Community Appearance Committee membership included two Planning Board members and eight citizens. Committee members were selected because of their interest in various and/or specific aspects of community appearance.

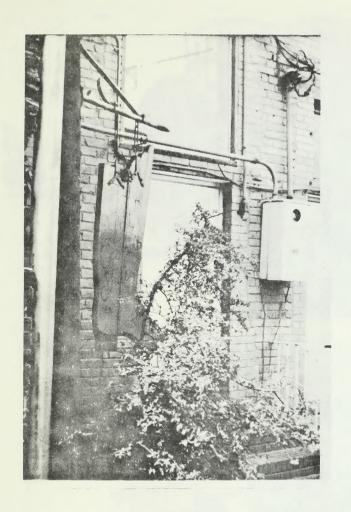
The field survey and general committee discussion of the individual findings were synthesized into two parts. The first part is a narrative presentation. The second part is a pictorial presentation.

The following narrative presentation is an effort at providing a snythesis for the context of the discussions of the Salisbury Planning Board Community Appearance Committee members.

The committee immediately recognized the existence of the many interests in community appearance and beautification as well as the many existing and active programs and projects being carried out in the community. The recognition came as a direct result of committee members either being personally involved in them or a knowledge of what others, not directly involved with the committee, were involved in or with. Some specific examples of this awareness are illustrated by the concern of the committee with the development of the Salisbury-Rowan Bicentennial Committee, activities of the Salisbury-Rowan Chamber of Commerce Beautification

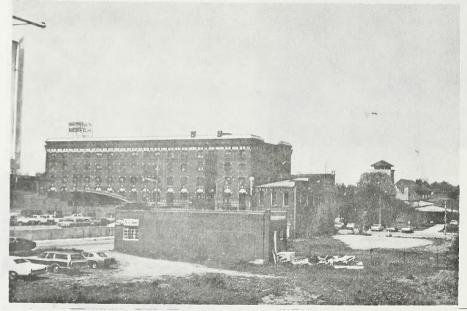
Committee, the thrust and accomplishments of the Salisbury Historic Foundation, and the interests of the Garden Club Council of Rowan County. From this awareness the committee developed its goal or objective as being more like a grand jury rather than an action or project oriented group. To

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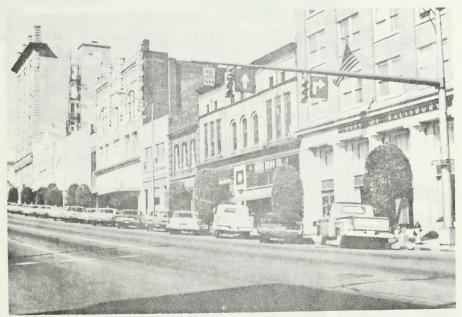








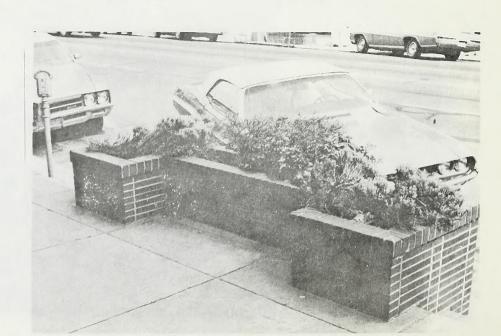










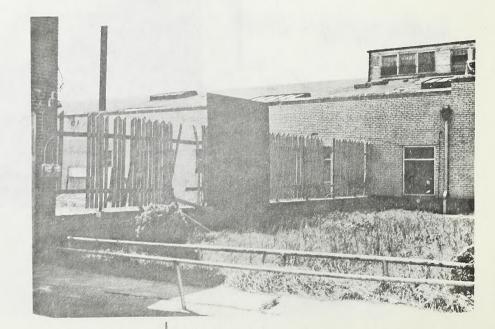


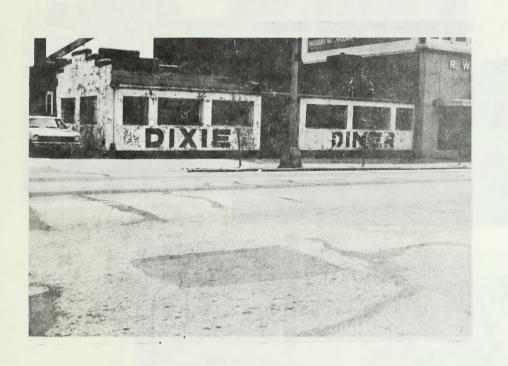


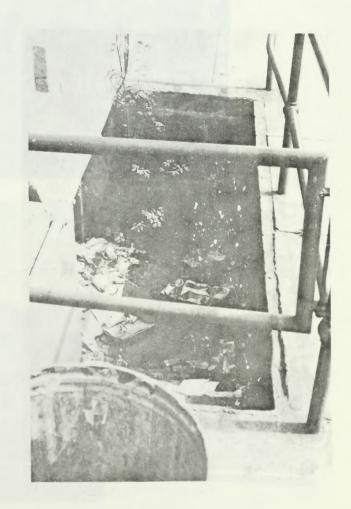


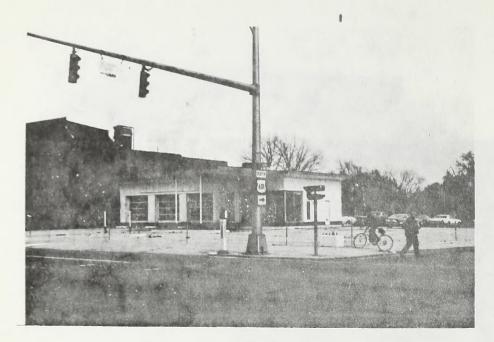


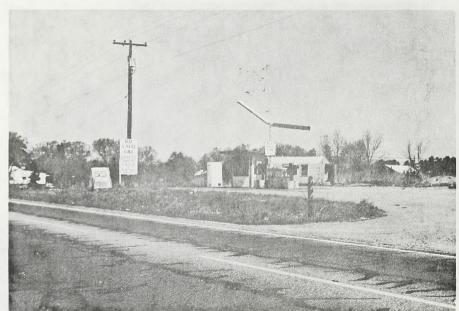


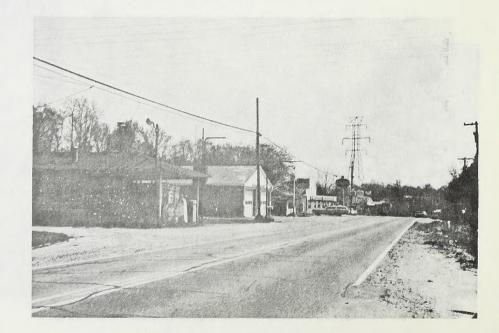


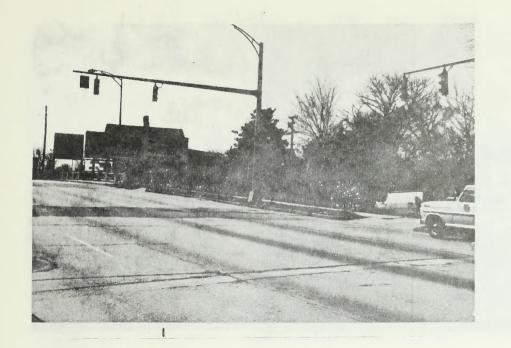


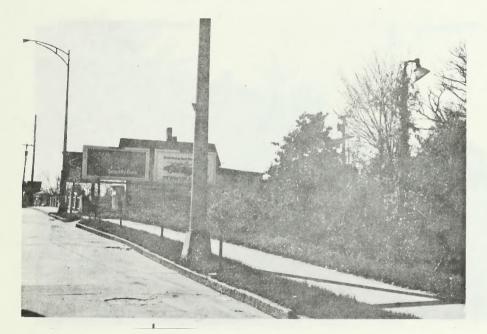








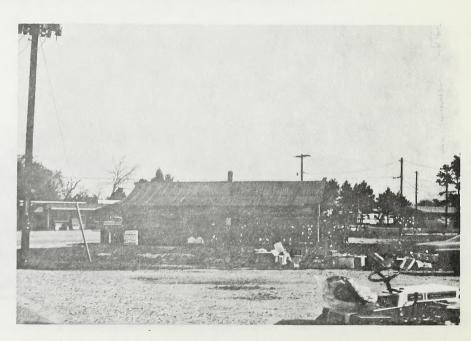


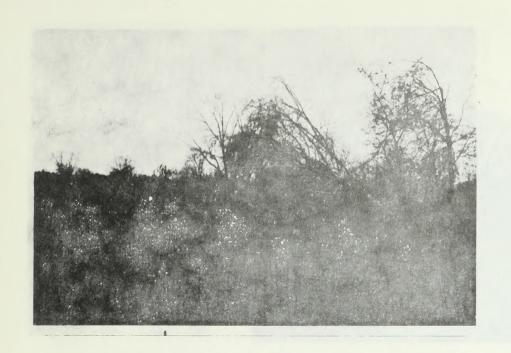












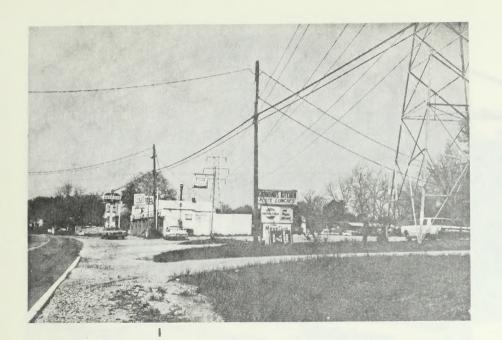






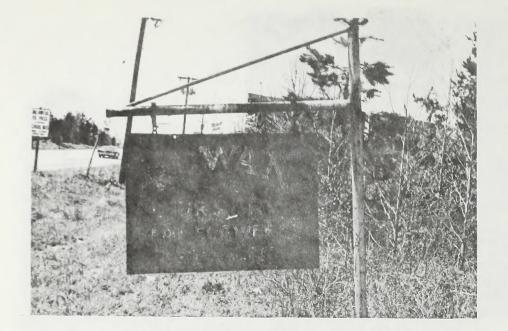








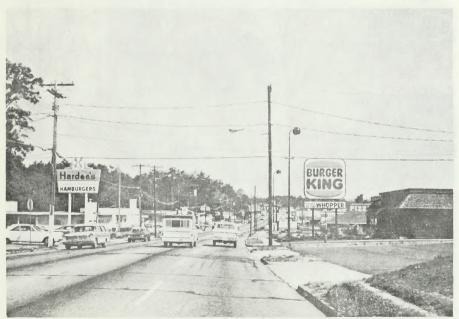








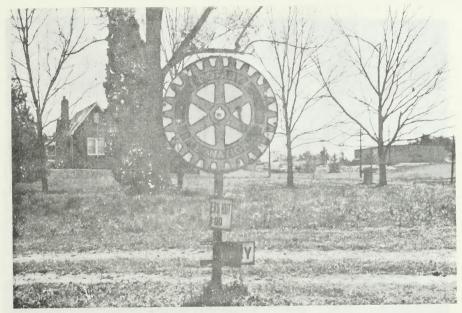
















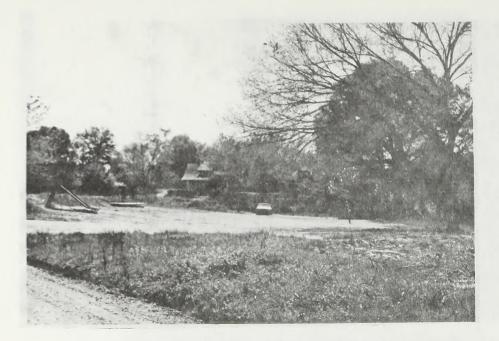




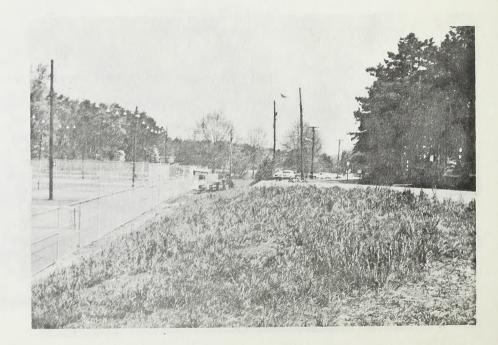
























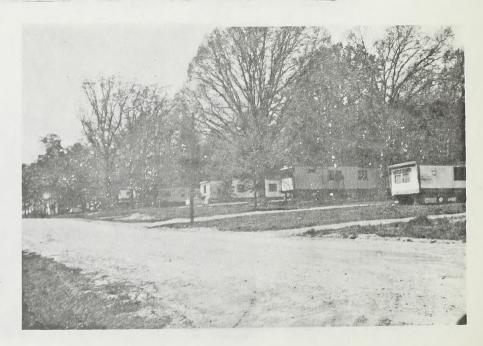




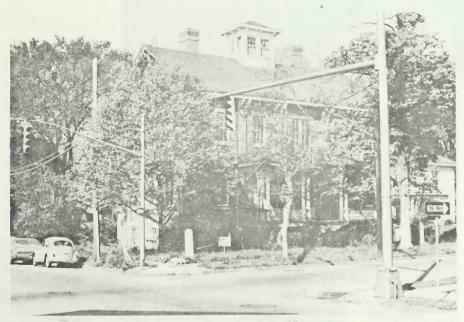








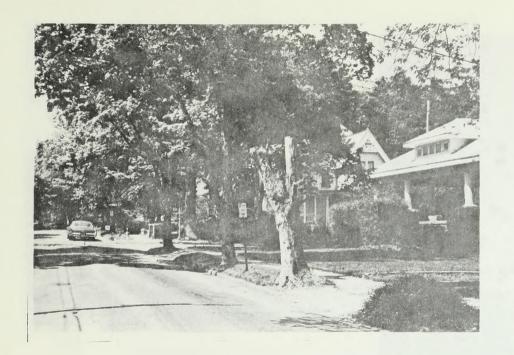










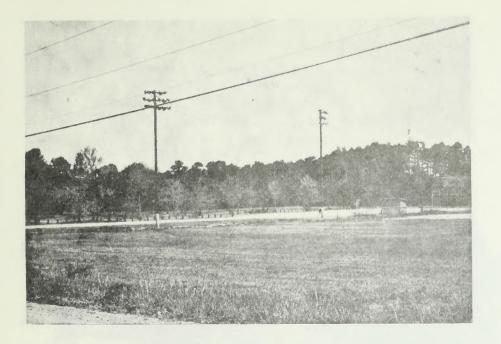
























COMMUNITY APPEARANCE PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

The existence of the many interests in specific programs and projects concerning community appearance is somewhat overwhelming. This is true if these are limited to only those projects and programs of which the committee is aware.

An evaluation on duplication of effort vs. competition, much less a judgment on whether the interests of one group or another prevails is not the intention of the Salisbury Planning Board Community Appearance Committee. What is presented here is an identification of programs and projects that will contribute to the overall attractive appearance of the Salisbury community while deterring, removing or correcting that which detracts from the attractive appearance of the Salisbury community. At times there is a tendency towards "clean up fix up" and yet these specifics are presented as a collection or grouping relative to community appearance. The following examples relative to the forming of public opinion is indicative of this. Here again the limitations of a first time effort as well as the impossibility of being totally comprehensive must be considered. It is in this context that the findings and recommendations are presented relative to programs and projects and those responsible or concerned therewith are presented.

The news media has repeatedly brought various aspects of community appearance to its consumers on almost a daily basis as well as on special subjects at specific times. While radio and television coverage are not easily conveyed in this form of a report, a sample of this coverage from the Salisbury Post is indicative of the various types of coverage provided by the news media. These include editorials, new items, commentary and features on individuals as well as special interest groups, including

governmental. Through this means of formulating public opinion, attention of the general public is directed towards community appearance. The continuation by the various sectors of the news media to provide this type coverage is a necessity.

THE SALISBURY EVENING POST

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Page 2B, Wednesday, March 13, 1974

Fewer Objectives Might Mean More Goals Attained

While Chamber of Commerce secretary Sonny Epting described it, as customary, as a "fruitful" meeting of the minds, the braintapping session held by the Chamber this week produced little that was new on the road to the better life in Salisbury-Rowan.

The ideas tossed out at the allday session haven't been refined into a clear program yet. But when they are, don't expect to see much that hasn't been discussed and moved-on at many past sessions.

The most immediate need, that for a county water and sewer system to meet growing demands, drew the lion's share of attention. And properly so, for this, of all the proposals discussed, is the key to much of the future.

Other than this, the session rehashed such issues as the slow decline in downtown business property, the parking problem, city-county school consolidation, recreation, industrial development and housing. Most of these are annuals that grow to attention and fade from it year after year.

The problem is that while the enthusiasm is up the ideas remain fresh looking and possible to achieve. But too often the enthusiasm is short-lived and many of the proposals call for a tenacity and work schedule that is seldom found under the committee system. So after an initial meeting or two, they dip beyond the horizon, only to rise a year later as if they had never run their brief course before.

Too, many of the proposals are not really Chamber of Commerce fooder to start with or more interested groups are already at work on them. We note that discussion was held on the revaluation program and, surely, this must have been a waste of time. It is a matter that is not within the realm of the Chamber to do anything about

We aren't suggesting that these "think" sessions are a waste of time. Nothing is if it causes some people to think, and even a few to do something about their thoughts.

We dipped into our files to the 1960 "brain-storming" sessions, perhaps the prime year for community mass thinking. Chamber members came up with 77 proposals in a three-minute session, and similar sessions were held through the fall at most civic meetings.

What these brain stormers accomplished through these sessions we don't have any idea. Many of the proposals, which later became realities, were probably born of other parents. But here are some ideas that did develop and later were accomplished: An industrial education center, retain older charm of city but expand on outskirts, industrial park, civic emblems at city entrances, school buses for city children, combined city-county tax office, a county manager, keep Yadkin River at a more stable level, increase Chamber membership, better city-county recreation facilities, large auditorium-civic center, lighted tennis courts in Salisbury, use McCanless property as industrial park, new gym at Catawba, greenery of some sort on Main Street.

Some ideas that died a borning: Consolidate Salisbury-Spencer-East Spencer, top-notch downtown hotel or motel, huild a lire under planning board, discourage negative reporting in newspaper except on back page, county-wide produce market, work with Southern Railway to put industry in unoccupied shop buildings, lower county and city taxes, merge city and county schools, develop park at Tuckertown Lake, complete thoroughfare plan, secure options on property for industrial use.

Last year's session was held at Myrtle Beach where the fresh ocean breezes should have aerated the molding ideas. While all reported that ideas ballooned under the smiling sun, the Chamber goals for the last 12 months were extremely general. The chamber called for more trained manpower, more conventions, more industry, better understanding of the farm role, cooperation between business and education, more community beautification, an improvement in the Chamber image, insurance that Rowan will get its share of highway funds, and "responsive efficient governments.

Perhaps in its efforts to be all things to all people the Chamber fails to be enough to any one. The framework of the Chamber is an ideal one, and the membership is substantial. But it seems to us it might be better to limit the objectives to make sure that what is a matter of dreaming today becomes a matter of fact tomorrow.



GARDENING IN STYLE — Patty and Bill Charles of South Fulton Street develop a garden in front of their rented house. The house in the background, which

looks like something out of "Gone With the Wind," is across the street. (Post Staff Photo)

Front Yard Garden Draws Cheers As Well As Protests

By JOE JUNOD Post Staff Writer

The fine lawns of South Fulton Street, home for several of Salisbury older, established and monied families, are marred occasionally by an overgrown lot, a puddle or a collection of beer bottles.

That list may soon include vegetables.

Patty and Bill Charles, residents of the Spanish-style house at the corner of Fulton and Fisher, have tilled part of the front yard and are planning to plant flowers, squash, okra, asparagus, green pepper and tomatoes.

Their first gardening effort has not met with enthusiasm from the landlord.

Charles Goldman, a member of the Feit-Goldman Corp., owners of the house, does not want a a garden in the front yard. "It's the appearance. They can plant it anywhere else in the yard. I have a garden," Goldman said.

The Charleses tried the backyard but claim there isn't enough sunlight. "It would only get four hours back there which is not good enough for vegetables near the ground with leaves," Mrs. Charles says.

One near-by resident is not at all happy about the garden, explaining that people just don't plant gardens in front lawns in "nice residential sections." The residents did not want to be identified.

Another Fulton Street resident voices her support for the Charles's garden.

"Anything they can do for that place is great," says a nearby resident. "Good for them. Anything that is constructive for that house. I think it is marvelous. They hardly ever cut the grass anyway."

The opposition bothers the young couple, but not much. "'I can't condemn them for not seeing the beauty of a vegetable garden," says Mrs. Charles.

For the Charleses, the garden is an economic necessity. "We need it. We live on \$262 a month that Bill gets on his GI benefit. We both go to Rowan Tech," she says.

"The government has asked families to plant gardens, and we are just trying to do our part," Mrs. Charles adds.

I've found this Chinese method of planting tomatoes which is supposed to give you the best tomatoes in the whole town," she says.

In addition to the vegetables, they plan to add marigolds, cockscombs, earthworms and lady bugs to aid the garden and the soil.

"He (Goldman) will be quite fortunate because we will have fed his land quite well and not by using pesticides or sprays. This will be an organic garden," she says.

"I don't know if we have the legal right to keep the garden, but if we do, we'll keep it. And we intend to keep it up. It will look nice," Mrs. Charles believes.

Goldman did not mention eviction as a solution if the Charleses plant the garden as planned. However, one local attorney said Goldman can evict if he wants to. "He didn't have to rent it in the first place," the attorney said.

THE SALISBURY EVENING POST Friday, May 3, 1974 THE SALISBURY EVENING POST Monday, April 22, 1974

Town Crier

On The Square

No-empty-stomach dept.: Statistician with nothing much else to do comes up with figure of 35 places to fuel up from West Innes to limits on the east end. He was measuring quantity, and had nothing to say about quality . . . Sign pollution: Another statistician with even less to do counted 43 standards bearing one or more traffic control signs on south side of Innes between Mahaley and the Square. Would have counted the north side the next day except sleep was interrupted by nightmare in which every parking space had a "Do Not Park" sign. . . Contributor: "Another tanktopper! Fire department washing up wasted energy pouring from gas tank of a parked car. Everybody looking. Wonder how many times trucks have been called out since the energy crisis? . . . Wish that barefoot girl had seen what I saw. Man didn't have a noserag. Pressed one nostril and emptied other on the sidewalk. Maybe that's why shoes came into being"... Less stomach-turning contributions welcome . . . Fellow wishing every day in the year could be like Sunday . . . Twelve cars parked north of 29 bridge north of Spencer show some people know how to spend a perfect day perfectly: Lounging on the river bank, holding a pole and watching the Yadkin flow by . .

THE SALISBURY EVENING POST Thursday, May 9, 1974



Lord Salisbury Views A Mess

Beautification often begins with small matters, and what Lord Salisbury, the cartoon critic, is looking over is one of the most common of these small things. This is the overgrown grass and weeds in the strip between the sidewalk and the street and, in this case at the old Winn-Dixie parking lot at Jackson and In-

nes, between the sidewalk and the parking lot curbing. Normally property owners keep such strips trimmed because of pride even though they are in the city's right of way. The slovenliness probably comes about because each expects the other to do the work.

The primary responsibility or concern for providing and maintaining that which contributes to the attractive appearance of the community lies with the individual. That is, the individual who ownes or occupies the real estate involved. The ownership or proprietary interest in the vast majority of the planning areas is privately owned by individuals. The condition in which this property is maintained is the direct result of the owners' or occupants' financial and/or physical ability and to a large extent, reflects his aesthetic values. Primarily, the individual is motivated by his own initiative. He is also responsive to influence from others. It is this external influence which can provide a gauge of minimum as well as ideal standards for attractive community appearance. It is then the individual on his own and through his influence with his fellow man that these standards can be identified, developed and achieved. To this end individual effort and commitment is a necessity and therefore encouraged. The encouragement should be through action which will recognize the individuals who contributed to attractive community appearance and cause those who are responsible for that which detracts from an attractive community appearance to correct these conditions.

The second area of responsibility or concern lies with groups of people. The general comments on the individual is also applicable here, but to a greater degree there are general areas of responsibility or concern which are more readily identified. Several groups are singled out as examples. This is not done to the exclusion of groups not mentioned but as a guide and example applicable to all groups which in some way or another are involved in community appearance.

Government, primarily local and state, provides facilities and services directly involved with community appearance. There are ordinances and laws which prescribe at least minimum standards. These standards won't prevent detracting conditions from occurring or existing. However, these standards can be used to initiate actions to assist in correcting detracting conditions to community appearance. Therefore, with citizen involvement and government response, the following areas are identified for follow-up actions.

- --Signs, private and governmental, seek to reduce the proliferation of signs, the removal of obsolete signs and maintenance of signs.
- --Streets and highways, provision of adequate shoulders on roads with side ditches, improve landscaping along Interstate 85 right-of-way particularly at East Innes Street, maintenance of medians, boulevards and traffic islands particularly as to growth of weeds and grass as well as improved landscaping and maintenance thereof.
- --Land use, a reassessment of uses permitted along major arterials with specific attention being given to limiting or prohibiting additional fast food service uses and other uses of similar nature. The establishment of areas of conservation or critical concern to provide for the preservation of open space within the planning area.
- --Deteriorating or dilapidated buildings, continue effort as is now being made in areas of minimum standard housing code program and extend to non-residential structures.

--Creeks, natural drainage channels, a collective effort by various governmental agencies to cause debris such as old tires, refrigerators, stoves and the like to be removed and the same type of collective effort to clean up the water of these natural drainage ways.

Civic and Community Groups

Nearly every civic or similar type group has an interest in community development. There is at least a committee of each such group charged with this subject to the end that results as exemplified by the Jaycees and Optimist may be achieved. The Intercivic Council should be advised of the community development programs presently underway and consideration by each civic and community group. A summary of such submittals should then be made available to all such groups.

Specific Interest Groups

This general classification also covers a broad range including professional associations, business organizations, and special purpose organizations; for example Board of Realtors, Merchants Association, Chamber of Commerce, Historic Foundation, Bicentennial Commission, or sub-units like the Downtown Task Force. Here again the following listings are presented as an indication of programs and projects and are not singled out to the exclusion of others or in preference to other programs and projects.

Downtown - Enhance the desirability of downtown Salisbury as a place to shop through store appearance both interior and exterior, a conserted effort to attract business, creation of a special group to monitor the street trees, planters and street furniture, correct the detracting effect

of the vacant property in the west side of the 100 block of South Main, the upgrading of store appearance during vacancies, the repair of damaged property on a permanent basis rather than temporary and if temporary, then in a subdued manner.

Historic - Preservation of heritage or nostalgia. The identity of Salisbury is to a great part associated with our symbols of yesterdays as they exist today and readied for tomorrow. To a great extent these are clustered in the central portion of the city. Both of the areas centering on Bank and Fulton Streets and the downtown area are to be encouraged to develop programs and projects that would not only provide a measure of protection but also a means of achievement in maintaining that which has survived in concert with that which has more recently been added and that which is to be added. The net result being the intrinsic atmosphere of those areas. In the total planning area are numerous opportunities relative to historic significance of pre-colonial and even pre-man origins as well as of more recent times. These warrant at least the same degree of attention.

Immediate Action Program - An immediate program of action should be developed and expressed through the interest of the Mayor in community appearance. The program of action would focus on the increase in the activities relative to the celebration of the United States Bicentennial and would create an awareness on the part of the individual citizen in his own immediate area of responsibility and collectively through those organizations and agencies concerned with community appearance of the need to perform those tasks which will result in a contribution to the attractive appearance of the community.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

SALISBURY NORTH CAROLINA ROWAN COUNTY, N. C.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA ROWAN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

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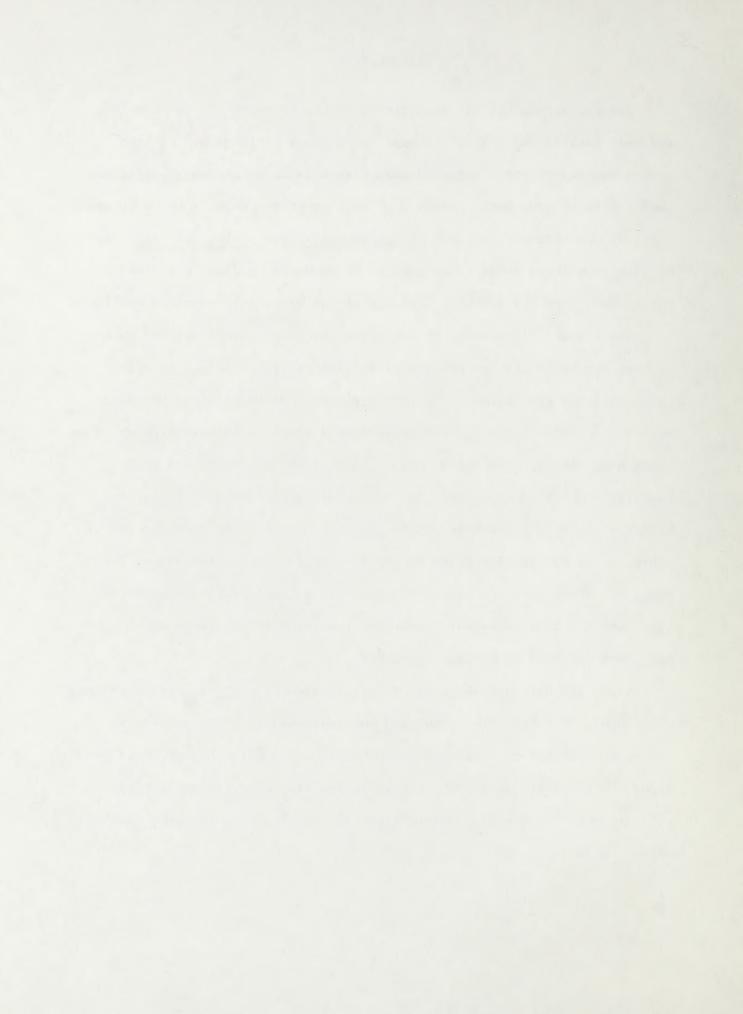
INTRODUCTION

The development of the historic resources of Rowan County is a long and well established responsibility. Individual citizens and citizen groups have voluntarily accepted this responsibility for many generations. Local units of government continue to have an active role in the achievements of the historic resource development programs. Like most ventures of this type there seems to be more to do than can be done regardless of the number of people actively involved or the financial resources available.

The financial pressures of the marketplace has forced many an owner or agency responsible for properties of historic significance to allow these heritage properties to be lost forever. "Of the sixteen thousand buildings listed in the Federal government's Historic Building survey, one-third have already been razed" according to A. L. Steinburg for the University of Illinois Press. The prudent identification of significant historic resource properties within Rowan County vs. the "save everything approach" is in itself a major accomplishment in the development of this program. While much has been lost, there is a considerable resource of the historically significant properties remaining to challenge an ambitious historic preservation program.

State and national interests in our local heritage resources have been commendable. It has both stimulated and responded to local interests.

The mutual support of these committed people along with that of those who enjoy the nostalgic atmosphere and those who are inquisitively curious provides a broad base of popular support in the historic resource development program.



From the survey material contained in this report, the very wide and even distribution of historic resources throughout Rowan County is self-evident. In separate documentations many of the municipalities have informally identified historic resources of local significance. Included here is the identification of some of the historic resources for the City of Salisbury.

There are historic resources yet to be identified. There are existing commitments which have been made and are yet to be fulfilled. There are additional commitments and program development to be formulated. It is then to this end that the following is presented for consideration.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAMS

In earlier documentation, <u>Historic Preservation</u>, <u>Salisbury-Rowan</u>

<u>County, N. C.</u>, printed January, 1973, an overall program of historic resource development was presented. The supporting information and programs in that report have been well received locally and at the state and national level. The initial printing has been exhausted and file copies at various repositories have disappeared. Since <u>Historic Preservation</u>, <u>Salisbury-Rowan County</u>, <u>N. C.</u> has contributed to the recent trends in the historic resource development program, a reprinting of that report seems appropriate. Some updating and revisions could be made if desired for the reprinting.

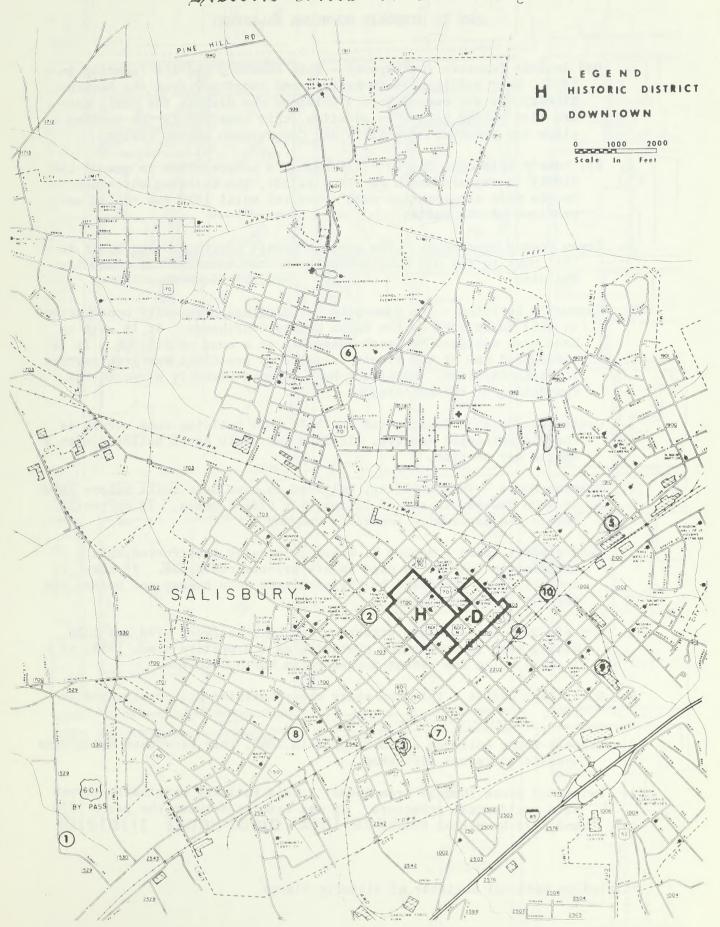
The most critical resource in any program of this type is the human resource. It is the individual interest and commitment that is fundamental. The collective interests of individuals is next and, therefore, comes the need for organization. Organizations, formal and informal, have now

KEY TO SALTSBURY HISTORIC SITES

(Excluding Historic District and Downtown)

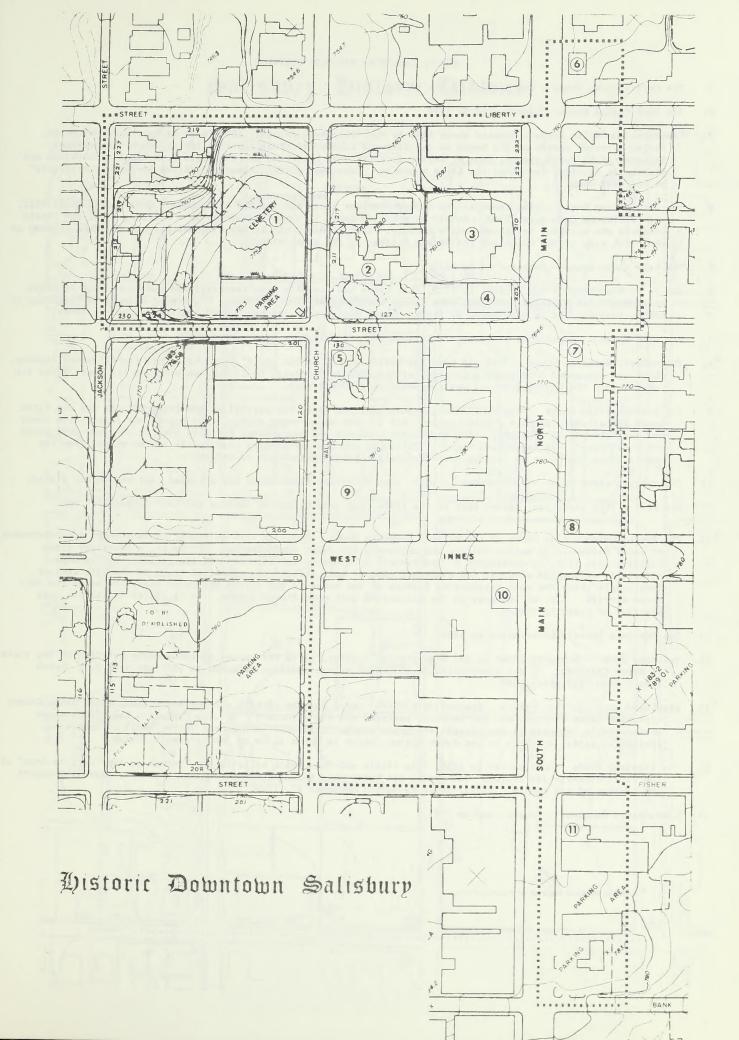
- 1. Alexander Barnes House This building is a restored log cabin built in 1835. It was moved here from its original site in Davidson County in 1970.
- 2. Plank Road Toll House This house, constructed in the 1850s, was originally the toll house of the plank road extending from North Wilkesboro to Salisbury.
- 3. Salisbury Cotton Mills Built in 1888, this site now houses Cone Mills.
- 4. Southern Railway Station 1907 is the approximate building date of this structure.
- 5. Lombardy (General Steele House) General John Steele, first comptroller of the treasury under Presidents Washington, Adams, and Jefferson, erected Lombardy in 1811. It was at one time famed for its extensive gardens.
- 6. Setzer School Setzer is a one-room, restored log school dating back to 1840.
- 7. Confederate Prison The building which once housed the Confederate Prison was originally constructed in 1835 as a cotton factory. From 1861 to 1865 it served as a prison for the Confederate Government after which time it was burned down by the Union army. The site now houses the National Cemetery where 11,700 Federal soldiers are buried.
- 8. Chestnut Hill Cemetery Established in 1880, this cemetery houses the graves of many important persons, including novelist Christian Reid.
- 9. Kessler Mills Now the home of Cannon Mills, this structure was erected in 1888.
- 10. Old Lutheran Cemetery This Lutheran and German cemetery, founded in 1767, is the final resting place of many early Salisbury leaders.

Historic Sites of Salisbury



KEY TO HISTORIC DOWNTOWN SALISBURY

- 1. Old English Cemetery (Oak Grove) This cemetery had its founding in 1775. Many soldiers, both British and American, from the Revolutionary War are buried here. Soldiers who died in the Civil War are also buried here. In addition, this cemetery is the resting place for Governor John Ellis and Congressman Burton Craige.
- 2. St. Luke's Episcopal Church Although its congregation is one of the oldest in western North Carolina (1753), the building which now houses this congregation wasn't erected until 1828 due to the many problems of the parish.
- 3. Rowan County Courthouse The present County Courthouse was built in 1912 next to the old County Courthouse now known as the Community Building.
- *4. Community Building The Community Building was originally constructed in 1857 to be used as the Rowan County Courthouse. It is said to have been designed by Jacob Stirewalt at a cost of \$15,000. It is considered one of the finest examples of pre-Civil War architecture in North Carolina. Architect Doug Tennent recently directed the remodeling of the building.
- 5. Canterbury House Constructed in 1867, this building once served as the Old Episcopal Rectory. It is a two-story brick building with a single bay portico.
- 6. Pearson House This building, believed to have been built before 1800 by John Howard, is one of Salisbury's oldest homes. It currently houses the Nationwide Insurance Company.
- 7. Horace Beard House Horace H. Beard originally constructed this building in 1844 to be used as his private residence. It has recently been remodeled by the architect John Ramsay and houses the offices of Bamby Bakery.
- 8. Purcell Drug Store This structure was built between 1790 and 1820. Having been in continuous operation as a drugstore since 1858, it is said to be the oldest drugstore in North Carolina.
- 9. U. S. Post Office This two-story stone building was constructed in 1909.
- 10. McNeely-Young Building Constructed in 1868, this structure now houses a music store and gift shop.
- 11. Swicegood House (Conrad Brem House) This building originally served as a residential structure. It was erected between the years 1770 and 1779 by Michel Brown.



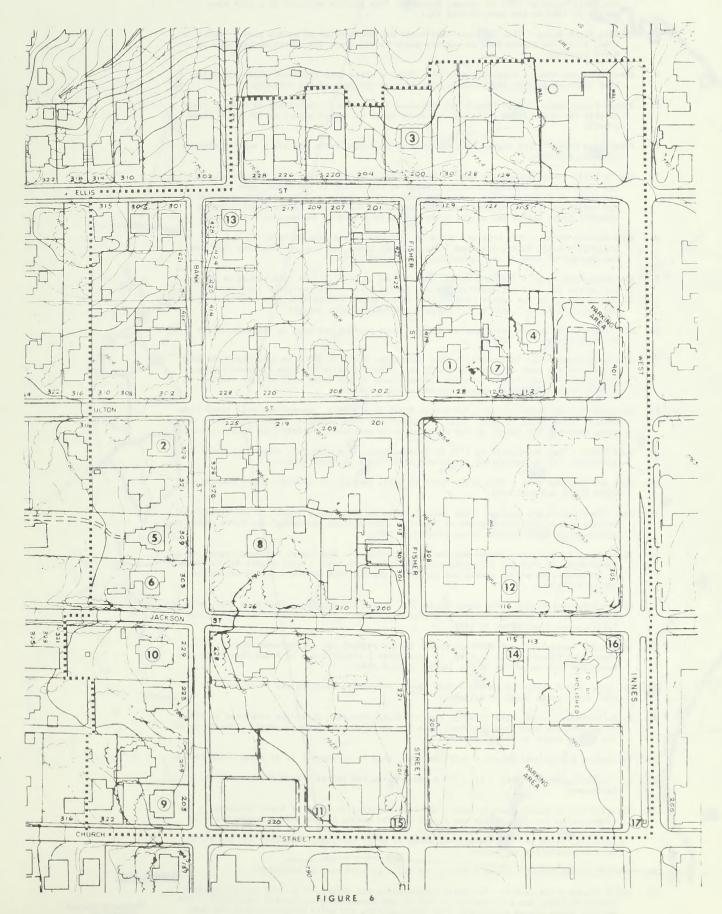
KEY TO SALISBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT

- 1. The Coffin-Brown House Constructed in the 1850s.
- 2. The Kerr Craige House Constructed in 1872.
- 3. Covernor John Ellis House Erected about 1850 by Mrs. Elizabeth Pearson, the sister of Governor John Ellis.

 During a recent survey of old homes in the city and county for their possible inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, John B. Wells, architectural historian for the State Department of Archives and History in Raleigh, described the Ellis house as: "the most perfect example of Greek Revival architecture" he had ever seen.
- 4. The John Fulton House Also known as the Sidney Blackmer House and the Old Mock House. Constructed about 1822, with additions soon after 1900. An old ante-bellum home, it served primarily as a boarding house for female students who attended Salisbury Female Academy. When it was built it was situated between the Male Academy on the north side of the house and the Female Academy on the south side.
- 5. The Hugh Jones House Constructed in 1872.
- 6. The J. H. Knox House Constructed in 1872, this house has recently been renovated and made into four separate apartment units by local architect John Ramsay who described the house as: "...a good example of Victorian or Gothic Revival. It is also known as the bracketed period with the big curved brackets under the eaves."
- 7. The Linn House Constructed about 1884. Site of the old Salisbury Female Academy.
- *8. The McNeely-Strachen House This old home was built in 1820 as the girls' boarding school for Salisbury Academy, which was descended from Queen's College, established in Charlotte in 1771. But within a few years after its construction the boarding school was converted into a residence.
 - 9. The Murdoch-Wiley House This three-story house, built in 1868, has several unique features. It was the first house in Salisbury to have running water. And it even had a sewer system. The cupola, or observation tower and the only one in Salisbury, is a most unique feature and was unusual for this area at the time this house was constructed. An impressive sight of Salisbury and the surrounding countryside can be viewed from the cupola since the house is located near the highest point in the City of Salisbury.
- 10. The Andrew Murphy House Constructed in 1854, this two-story frame house has a hipped roof and double piazza.
- 11. Old Well This structure, dating back to the 1760s, was used by Andrew Jackson and Lord Cornwallis' men.
- *12. The Rowan Museum Also known as the Maxwell Chambers House. Built in 1819 by either Lewis Utzman, a cabinetmaker, or Jacob Stirewalt, a master builder and designer, for Judge James Martin. The house, a two-story frame building with trim, is considered a fine example of domestic architecture for its period. Its columns, pilasters, pedimented windows, and elaborate plaster work reflect the classical trend of the 19th century. Many people think the most interesting feature of the house is the spiral staircase that circles up the full three stories. Also of interest is the attractive back yard flower garden. It is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.
- 13. The Torrence House Constructed in 1841.
- 14. The Wren House Formerly known as the Presbyterian Academy, it is the second oldest academy building in the state of North Carolina. It was constructed in 1839 with a rear addition attached in 1871 and used as a church school from 1839 until 1925.
- *15. Archibald Henderson Law Office Erected in 1795-96. Good example of 18th century law office. Says Rowan County historian James Brawley, who has recently restored the old structure: "...the Henderson Law Office shows unmistakeable features of the (Jacob) Stirewalt touch. Wainscoats and panels in the small structure are similar in detail to those in the Rowan Museum, which is known to be of the Stirewalt design."
 - 16. The Sessions House Constructed in 1854, this little one-room brick building once served as the "Lecture Room" of the First Presbyterian Church. Ten graves are below this building, including the graves of Maxwell Chambers and members of his family. Oldest grave is marked November 22, 1799.
 - 17. Confederate Monument Constructed in 1911.

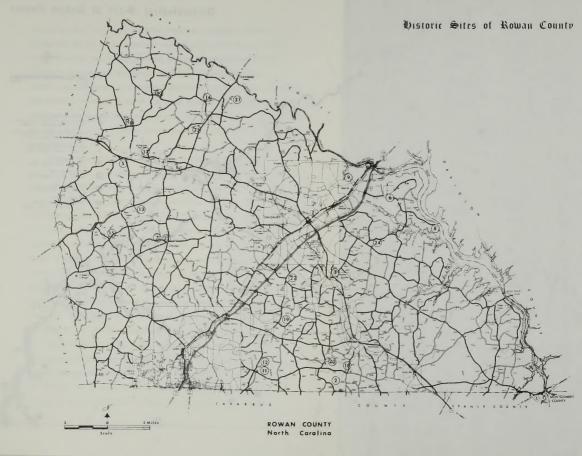
Listed on National Register of Historic Places

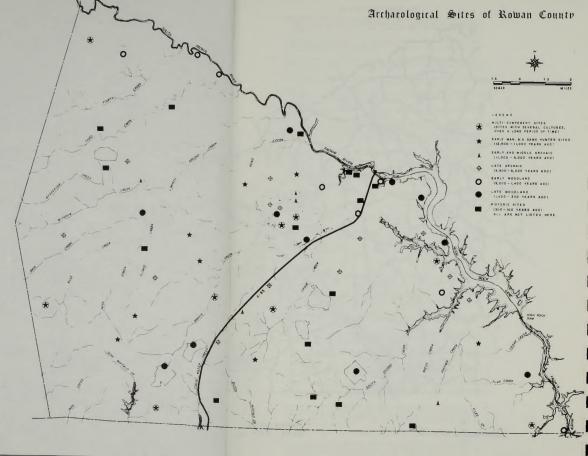
Salisbury Historic District



KEY TO ROWAN COUNTY HISTORIC SITES

- Beard's Bridge Stone pillars are still visible from the wooden bridge built by John Beard in 1818. The bridge collapsed shortly before the Civil War but was replaced by a steel toll bridge in 1900. This was replaced by a new, toll-free bridge constructed in 1924.
- Colonel George Bernhardt House This eleven-room, Greek Revival, two-story frame house
 was constructed in 1854 by Colonel Bernhardt from profits acquired in a gold mine
 strike in 1843 in the town of Gold Hill.
- *3. Michael Brown House This fortress-like house was constructed of native stone. Built in 1766, it is the oldest home in western North Carolina and the oldest German home in North Carolina.
 - Ephriam-Mauney House Constructed in the 1840s, a slate rock formation which signifies that there is gold in the vicinity also lies at the site of the building.
 - Osborn-Foard House Peter Stuart Ney, believed to be General Michel Ney of France, lived in this two-story frame three bay structure while he taught school at the Third Creek School.
 - Peter Kern House This rugged home was made of hand-hewn brick and has a very attractive circular stairway.
 - 7. Kerr's Mill Three structures make up Kerr homeplace: Millbridge, the Kerr Homestead, and the Summerell Home. The mill, erected by the doctor in the 1820s, gave the community of Millbridge its name. The home itself, built in 1822, is characterized by the carved and fluted decorations which drip from the house's gabled eaves. Double chimneys brace either end of the house and it is framed by two massive holly trees.
 - 8. Linn-Hartman House This home was built in 1778 by Captain John Hartman. It was originally built in two sections. Its graceful lines, gables, and slanting roof are reminiscent of some of the German homes in Pennsylvania.
- *9. Alexander Long House The Long House, constructed in 1785, at one time served as an inn for people who used his ferry across the Yadkin River. The two-story structure is characterized by the double chimney into which glazed bricks have been placed to form the initials "A. L." and "E. L." beneath two heart-shaped designs.
 - Mr. Vernon Mt. Vernon was built in 1822 by Jacob Kridder and used as the post office for many years,
 - 11. John Stigerwalt House (Stirewalt) This structure, built in 1811, is considered the best example of the work of John Stirewalt, Jr., master architect of the Piedmont region. Two details of particular interest are the clock on the front wall and the massive chimney with its diamond-shaped, glazed brick patterns.
 - 12. Reverend Charles Storch House The Storch House is a simple, two-and-one-half story frame federal house built in 1805. Also of interest on this property is the large white oak tree, probably the oldest in the Piedmont which stretches 152 feet from bough to bough.
 - 13. Wood Grove This home, built in 1774 by Thomas Cowan, is a graceful, simple two-story brick structure. It is considered the second oldest home in Rowan County.
 - 14. Rice and Ratledge Mill This mill, built in 1816, remains in operation today turning out wheat flour and corn meal.
 - 15. Back Creek Church and Academy The church, built in 1855, was a result of the division of beliefs within the congregation at Thyatira. The academy was one of the three oldest academies in Rowan County, being founded in 1867.
 - 16. Third Creek Presbyterian Church and the One Room School The church building itself was constructed in 1835 for a congregation founded before 1789. Peter Stuart Ney is buried in the graveyard at the church and taught in the One Room School situated behind the church building.
 - 17. Christ Episcopal Church The congregation for Christ Episcopal was formed in 1817 under the guidance of the Reverend Robert J. Miller and met in a log structure until the church building was constructed in 1827.
- * 18. Lowerstone Evangelical and Reformed Church (Grace Evangelical and Reformed Church) The Lowerstone Church, built in 1795, is considered a mirror image to Organ Church with the exception that it is six inches larger on each side.
 - Mt. Hope United Church of Christ This large, attractive building was constructed in 1866 seven miles south of Salisbury.
- 20. Organ Lutheran Church The older of the two stone churches, Organ was completed in 1794. It derives its name from the organ made for the church by John Stirewalt, thought to be the oldest organ in North Carolina.
 - 21. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Built in 1844, this is an example of an early frame church.
 - 22. St. Paul's Lutheran Church St. Paul's was constructed in 1872, four miles south of Salisbury.
 - 23. Thyatira Church (Lower Meeting House) and "The Westminster Abbey of North Carolina" The congregation for this church was formed in 1753 making it the oldest congregation in Rowan County. The present building was constructed in 1860. The cemetery behind Thyatira, known as "The Westminster Abbey of North Carolina," contains the graves of many revolutionary war heroes.
 - 24. Union Lutheran Church Union Lutheran was built in 1878 east of Salisbury.
 - 25. Unity Presbyterian Church The Unity congregation was organized in 1792 and the present church building was constructed in 1847 on the foundations of the old log church. The gallery where slaves worshipped with their masters can still be seen within the main building.





matured to that level which requires independant staffing. The many volunteers and the contributions of staff time from many agencies, helpful as these may be, are not adequate to meet the present administrative demands. Opportunities for various projects are missed for want of administrative response or attention. Historic program goals and objectives are generally known and accepted. Specific historic program projects are readily identified. The development of the human resources is wanting for the administrative staffing needed to overcome this deficiency in the program.

The specific plan for historic resources development identifies a joint exercise of local government capabilities. It also calls for the reinforcement of one level of government with the capabilities of other levels of government. The financial capabilities of the various levels of government in this area is quite obvious. It is the joint exercise of such capabilities as the designation of specific historic resources which escapes the mutual reinforcement of the various levels of government. Formal national recognition and state recognition of specific historic resources have been achieved. To a great extent this attention was achieved through local effort. And yet the local units of government have given no official status of formal recognition to these specific historic resources. Such formal local recognition is a practical necessity. The hierarchy is not official recognition by one level of government to the exclusion of all others, but rather an accumulative recognition. That is, any specific historic resource formally recognized at the national level warrants formal recognition both at the state level and the local level. The same is true of any specific historic resource which is formally recognized at the state level warrants formal recognition at the local

level. Formal recognition includes being listed in the National Register of Historic Sites, designated or recognized by other formal action of the North Carolina Dept. of Archives and History (now the Department of Culture, Division of Art, Culture and History), designation or recognition by other formal action of a local governing body. Local government recognition may reinforce one another in formal recognition of a specific historic resource by both a municipality and the county. It is through formal recognition that a specific historic resource receives special considerations. To a large extent these special considerations are protective to the specific historic resource and in some situations encourages the further development of the characteristics relative thereto. A concerted effort to secure official local action is needed at this time.

Competition of ideas and interest seems to have a way of bringing about cooperation or at least parallel efforts which accure to mutual benefits. Historic resources are compatible with commercial, industrial, residential, recreational, and conservative interests and accrue benefits to each other. Consent among separate parties, difficult enough to achieve, should be based on real commitments by the agreeing parties. To this end an honest assessment relative to actual (i.e., material) commitment must be the guide for participation in the development of historic resources.

In the continuance of the historic resource development process, there are times when the opportunities for achievement are quite favorable. The United States Bicentennial celebration now in process is an example of such favorable opportunity. The act of celebration is in itself

intangible. But when accompanied with activities producing tangible results which will remain long after the festivities, then significant accomplishments in the historic resource development process have been achieved. This requires an extremely deep commitment to activities which produce tangible results. It also requires the commitment of time and attention now when the opportunities of the Bicentennial are with us. This example of timing opportunity relative to the Bicentennial is transferrable into all the various historic resource development activities. From the preparation of the local and state governmental budgets to preparation of grant applications in both the governmental and private sectors to the actual acquisition or development of a historic resource, those critical conditions which are prerequisite to achievement must exist and then the results achieved.

The specific heritage of Rowan County, Salisbury, as well as the other municipalities is a viable resource. It is a commodity in our economy.

It is an essential element in our way of life. To this end this report sets forth the continuation of the program of Historic Preservation,

Salisbury-Rowan County, N. C. with the poignant reminder to achieve tangible results in the development of historic resources. This can be done through (1) closer adherence to and development of the historic preservation program, (2) independent staffing of historic resource development programs, (3) more significant involvement by local units of government,

(4) practicing historic preservation as a necessity in the marketplace, and (5) the securing of tangible results from the Bicentennial activities.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STATEMENT

Abstract

A broadly executed survey of community appearance combined with research into historic sites in and around the community. Recommendations concerning the treatment of both subjects are included.

Environmental Impact

Should the actions be taken as recommended in this study, the environment would be definitely improved. In no way will there be any damage to the environment resulting from actions recommended in this study. The recommended policies are highly coterminous with the Land Development Plan for the area. These policies would also co-mingle with town ordinances designed to improve and preserve aesthetic quality.

Adverse Environmental Effects

No adverse effects are expected from the adoption of the recommendations of this study.

Alternatives to the Proposed Recommendations

The alternative to adoption of the suggested policies is not to take any planned and coordinated action concerning community appearance or historic preservation. Such an alternative would condone unattractive areas in the municipalities as well as denying preservation to genuine historic sites.

Relationship, Under the Proposed Recommendations, Between Local Short Term Uses of Man's Environment and the Maintenance and Enhancement of Long Term Productivity

Adoption of the proposed recommendations of this study will have the same type of effect on both short term and long term use of the environment. This effect will take the form of a cleaner, more pleasing environment and should have a more pronounced effect on the long term productivity.

Any Irreversible or Irretrievable Commitments of Resources Which Would be Involved if the Recommendations are Accepted

There should be no commitment of resources that would be termed irretrievable or irreversible due to actions taken recommended in this study.

Federal or State Policies Which Offset any Adverse Environmental Effects of the Recommended Actions

Absolutely no adverse effects on the environment are expected if the recommendations set forth are followed. Only beneficial effects can result from such action.

Applicable Federal, State, and Local Environmental Controls Those applicable federal, state and local environmental controls will lend themselves effectively to the implementation of the recommendations of this study.

- G.S. 153A-330-335: N. C. Subdivision Enabling Legislation for Counties
- G.S. 113A-50-66: N. C. Sedimentation Pollution Control Act of 1975
- G.S. 130-166.22-166.33: N. C. Absorption Sewage Disposal System Act of 1973
- G.S. 143-215.51-215.61: N. C. Floodway Regulation
- G.S. 160A-396-398: N. C. Historic District Enabling Legislation
- G.S. 160A-451: N. C. Community Appearance Commission Enabling Legislation Section 701, Federal Housing Act of 1954, as amended--Comprehensive Planning Assistance

<u>Mitigation Measures Proposed to Minimize the Impact of the Proposed</u> Recommendations

Measures to minimize the impact of the proposed recommendations will not be necessary as the impact of the actions, if taken as recommended, will be beneficial to the community and the environment.

Problems and Objectives Raised During the Review of the Proposed Recommendations
There were no problems of an environmental nature raised in review of
this study's recommendations.

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE

SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

SALISBURY NORTH CAROLINA ROWAN COUNTY, N. C.